"Fling Out Our Banner, Let It Float!"

THE TEMPLAR

conceived and written for the purpose of advancing the interests of
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR in MASSACHUSETTS and RHODE ISLAND

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By all means avoid letting your Commandery become a "one-man Commandery," where one man does the work and carries the responsibilities that should be distributed among the Officers and Committee Chairmen. If you are so fortunate as to have a man with the ability and the self-sacrificing willingness to carry the lion's share of the load, make the most of his administrative ability to guide and direct, but see to it that the proper officials and chairmen do their own work. Otherwise when something happens to this "one-man" you will be dismayed to discover how weak your Commandery has grown. Don't continue the same man on committees year after year but appoint new ones at regular periods and thus increase the number of those who by direct experience realize the responsibilities and problems of keeping the Commandery in healthy operation. Such men constitute the backbone of your effectiveness.

"When you get all wrinkled up with care and worry it's a good thing to get your faith lifted."

"A man is as big as the things that annoy him."

What's in a Name?

The shepherds' vision; the angels' song; and the birth of the Saviour is commemorated in Bethlehem #43. The scene of His agony in Gethsemane #35. His death in Calvary #13. His burial in Holy Sepulchre #8. The village intimately associated with His last days - "and He led them out as far as to" - in Bethany #17. The country in which He lived and labored by Palestine #10. The Capitol City by Jerusalem #19. The Mount, a Sabbath's day journey from Jerusalem, By Olivet #66. The building in which He cleansed in His Ministry by Temple #48. The Godhead which He represented in Trinity #32. We commemorate the effort to redeem the Holy Land from the infidel in De Molay #7, Pilgrim #9, Hugh de Payens #20, Godfrey de Bouillon #25, Coeur de Lion #34 and Ivanhoe #46. We go with the Apostle Paul on his journey in Cyprus #39. Five Commanderies are named for Saints:-St. Johns #1, St. Bernard #12, St. Omer #21, St. Paul #40 and St. Andrew #49. He who achieved the quest of The Holy Grail, the cup used by Christ at The Last Supper by Sir Galahad #52. The Battle Flag of the Ancient Templars by Beauseant #41.

Temperance as taught in Templary is not a narrow term. It is not merely abstinence from strong drink, but means temperance in all things, and particularly in the use of the tongue. It means that instead of mounting on the hill tops to proclaim a Sir Knight's shortcomings, we go to him in private and whisper good counsel in his ear. The intemperate use of tongue is one of the greatest weaknesses of man.

Good Templars live in harmony with each other, and feel morally responsible for contributing some good to the community around them.

19 Sir Knights, Ladies and friends from Massachusetts and Rhode Island attended the Grand Encampment Easter Sunrise Service in the Amphitheatre, Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, D. C., on March 28th.

Last night about midnight, after making a late inspection of his greenhouse, Charles

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stepped out the door to look at the thermometer. Away overhead he heard sounds of birds, indistinct in the night. They were flying well up toward the sky - thousands of them - headed for the Great North Star. Dark masses of migrants from the South passed overhead. Frequent calls indicated that they were water fowl, the warm weather giving them their natural urge to fly toward nesting locations. He watched them for several minutes. The thought came to him, as it has to others, that the birds, the wild animals, the forces of Nature, all follow their accustomed way, as years come and as years go. The human denizens of the earth, foolish creatures, must always be creating disturbances within themselves, wasting the wealth of resources with which the Creator has enriched the world for their benefit. -- Why can we not learn?

Everywhere throughout the world there stands the Cross of Christ. All the roads, the highways, the chartered paths of the seas and oceans lead to the hill of Golgotha ... The Cross is written in capital letters across every page of history ... When Christ upon His Cross comes into your life, He will take full possession of you; then will come that freedom which you have so earnestly sought. The bonds and chains which bind you to your lower nature will be suddenly loosed; the restrictions imposed upon you by your own vows and promises to God will suddenly cease to restrict. Instead of circumscribing your freedom, they will be the means to greater freedom, forming stepping stones to peaks of exaltation. Defeats will be transformed into victories, life will find new meaning. You will have found freedom, for you will have found God.

If a candle is put under a glass jar it shines for a time, but only until the oxygen is gone. Then it flickers and goes out. An unworthy stewardship of God's truth often results in a similar loss to the world. When the followers of Christ are unworthy stewards of that which He came to reveal, the truth is frequently lost.

A man does not become a failure because of a mistake. He becomes a failure when he blames his error on someone else.

The quest of life is for freedom. Man wants to be free, free to express himself, free to attain the highest that his abilities and powers will permit. How shall that freedom come? Freedom can come to you and to me only as experience Christ and Calvary. The life of Christ must be recapitulated in the individual ... Only as one experiences the Cross in some way will he fully understand the meaning of the resurrection and the ascension ... The rules which we adopt to guide our conduct, the creeds which we formulate to direct our thinking, the vows which we assume to hold us to our ideals merely bind us down until the suffering Christ upon the Cross of Calvary comes into our experience to lift us above all restrictions.

Our Monthly Conclaves draw us closer and through them we forget that 'Chain of Gold shaped in God's all perfect mould' which holds us in bonds of friendship throughout all our lives. We in Templar Masonry have taken a sacred obligation in the performance of which we can play our small parts in the winning of the peace and the prevention of another, and what will undoubtedly truly be the last great world war ... As members of the greatest and strongest fraternity in the world, and particularly of this crowning Christian Order of ours, it is our responsibility, in exchange for the privilege of membership, to take outside of the four walls of our Commandery Asylums the great lights of our beliefs, and put them into practical applications. Templar Masonry has a past steeped in glamour traditions, but it has a challenging future which can eclipse its historical background, if we but have the courage and determination to make it so.

Sitting around thinking about what you'd do if you had your time to go over again isn't half so healthy - nor useful - as deciding what you're going to do with what you have left.

Failures come to all persons who strive to do something. They are the mark of the man who tries. Few persons without scars have ever been in battle. Our greatest glory lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

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All men want to succeed. Some want to succeed so badly they're willing to work for it. Are we, as Knights Templar, willing to work in order that we may be successful?

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Ascension Sunday Service, May 9, Lynn, Mass.

Commanders! As soon as you arrive at Manning Bowl, contact E. Sir Benjamin C. Boardman, Past Commander Olivet #36, who will be stationed just outside the Locust Street entrance. He is Chairman of the arrangements at the Field and will give you your location and assignment for the start of the march; also all other necessary instructions including the forming of the Triangle inside the Bowl. Bring your 3 Colors:- National Flag, Standard and Beauseant. The Colors will march in mass formation, that is: all Beauseants for example, will be in one division; the Standards in another, and the National Flags will all be together, presenting a glorious sight. Each Commandery will march in a single unit according to the number of your Commandery. Come rain or shine and be there promptly, the service commences at 3:30 P.M. Read Part V of the Drill Manual on Page 114 of the new Tactics.

The Ladies Night on May 14th at the Hotel Puritan, Boston, being an outstanding Templar affair, the R.E.Grand Commander wishes that the Sir Knights would wear their Templar uniforms (no chapeau or sword). Special rooms are reserved so you can change your clothes in the Hotel. There will also be special rooms for the Ladies.

LAST YEAR'S RESULTS

	Members	Net Gain
Missouri	10365	1136
Massachusetts	10372	195
Michigan	11404	489
Kansas	9279	798
Kentucky	6757	785
Minnesota	7230	776
Alabama	5785	587
Louisiana	2108	271
Rhode Island	2388	-39

Cyrpus #39, Hyde Park, Mass., E. Sir Archibald S. Hicks, Commander, had a lecture and demonstration on Archery at their April 22nd Conclave.

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Beauseant #41, Malden, Mass., E. Sir James A. Westhaver, Commander, jointly with Cyprus #39 and Cambridge #42 held a reception to their Division Commander E. Sir Stephen G. Wooliver at their March 22nd Conclave.

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Cambridge #42, Cambridge, Mass., E. Sir Sargent S. Stearns, Commander, held a Past Commanders night, working "The Order of the Temple" on 7 candidates. On April 11th they attended Divine Services at the First Baptist Church in Lexington.

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Bethlehem #43, Gloucester, Mass., E.Sir George H. Morse, Jr., Commander, held a Travelogue - Sir Knight Carlson recounting his experiences in a recent trip to Europe. At their March Conclave, the officers of Hugh de Payens #20, Melrose Mass., E.Sir Frank C. Greeley, Commander, a total of 48 Sir Knights, visited them and worked the "Red Cross" and "Malta" on 3 candidates.

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Quincy #47, Quincy, Mass., E.Sir Earl C. Stevenson, Commander, held their annual Ladies Night - Washington's Birthday Party.

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Reading #50, Reading, Mass., E.Sir Walter C. Boone, Commander. Although Past Commander Edward T. Blanchard has moved to East Kingston, N.H., and in spite of weather conditions, he has attended all conclaves this winter. Reading is sponsor for Middlesex Chapter of De Molay boys. On April 23rd, the Chapter's 25th Anniversary, the Commandery presented them a set of Officers Jewels. The Commandery

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acted as escort at the Chapter's Church Service April 25th. June 20th Reading will escort Good Samaritan Lodge to Church.

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Thomas Smith Webb #51, Cranston, R.I., E. Sir Alfred E. Grant, Commander, plans to hold another Ladies Night May 21st. At a recent conclave, they had an entertainment sound motion pictures in technicolor on Latin America.

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At the Stated Conclave of Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 34 K. T. Charlestown, held on April 20th, the Temple Degree was worked by the Past Commanders under the direction of R.E. Sir G. Lester Marston, P.G.C. and Em. Sir William S. Cooper, P.G.W.

Of the 23 living Past Commanders, 15 participated in the work, and according to a Past Inspector Instructor who was present, the work was most impressively performed.

During the evening, Em.Sir Oscar F.Sargent, who was Commander during 1908 to 1910, presented 40 year medals to three Sir Knights whom he knighted in 1908--Sir Knights William T. Robbins, William W. Hicks and John J. Vortisch.

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A true friend unbosoms freely, advises justly, assists readily, takes all patiently and remains a friend unchangeably. These being the qualities of a friend, we are to find them before we choose one.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT DECISIONS

"An objection to a visitor excludes him from attending the Conclave."

"It is the duty of the Eminent Commander to ascertain beyond any question of doubt that a Sir Knight who desires to visit the Commandery, is in good standing."

"A Commander who removes from the jurisdiction, vacates his office, and does not become a Past Commander. The Generalissimo who succeeds him and serves out the term, becomes a Past Commander."

"A Past Commander retains his rank even if he affiliates with a Commandery in another State."

"'Knights Templar' held the proper name. (Up until 1856 the name was Knights Templars)."

"A constituent Commandery has no authority to elect a member who has not been through the chairs, to the title of Past Commander."

"Moving out of jurisdiction forfeits no rights of membership."

"Where there is a conflict, the ritual governs over tactics."

"A Grand Commandery may change uniforms, but uniforms used in public should be alike."

A Word of Appreciation:

Trinity Commandery #32, Hudson, Mass., Em. Sir Harold B. Blenkhorn, Commander, was host to your Grand Commander, Rt.Em. George A. Weeks and Em.Sir N.Russell Lynn, Grand Warder, on Wednesday, April 21st. Following the reception of the Grand Commander, the Order of the Temple was conferred upon Knight of Malta Robert Vincent Adrian, followed by a collation.

South Shore Commandery #31, East Weymouth, Em. Sir Basil S. Warren, Commander, was host to your Grand Commander, Rt. Em. George A. Weeks and Em. Sir N. Russell Lynn, Grand Warder, on Thursday, April 22nd. Following a very delightful dinner, the lines were formed for the reception of the Grand Commander. Then the Order of the Red Cross and Malta were conferred upon three candidates, with Em. Sir W. Howard Mills, Deputy Warder, as Ex. High Priest.

Thank you, Sir Knights, for your many courtesies.

George A. Weeks

Grand Commander.

COMMANDERY	NUMBER OF PETITIONS
St. Johns	16
Boston	46
Newburyport	12
Washington	0
Worcester County	26
Springfield	13
De Molay	40
Holy Sepulchre	11
Pilgrim	7
Palestine	20
Milford	7
St. Bernard	1
Calvary	1
Haverhill	8
Old Colony	6
Sutton	38
Bethany	22
Winslow Lewis	3
Jerusalem	4
Hugh de Payens	30
St. Omer	3
Berkshire	12
Connecticut Valley	2
Woonsocket	3
Godfrey de Bouillon	2
Joseph Warren	23
Narragansett	3
Bristol	12
Northampton	9
South Shore	3
Trinity	2
Natick	0
Coeur de Lion	4
Gethsemane	23
Olivet	14
Athol	12
Bay State	10
Cyprus	4
St. Paul	4
Beauseant	10
Cambridge	10
Bethlehem	6
Orange	5
Ivanhoe	8
Quincy	9
Temple	13
St. Andrew	11
Reading	3
Thomas Smith Webb	16
Sir Galahad	8
Winthrop	3
TOTAL	564

SEPTEMBER TO APRIL INCLUSIVE

	OBJECT.	ACTUAL	1947	1946
Sept.	57	48	38	64
Oct.	74	81	56	87
Nov.	71	73	58	55
Dec.	72	62	71	62
Jan.	74	64	69	64
Feb.	78	77	98	76
Mar.	80	86	87	77
Apr.	100	73	71	104
TOTAL	606	564	548	589

TOTAL PETITIONS

Boston	46
De Molay	40
Sutton	38
Hugh de Payens	30
Worcester County	26
Joseph Warren	23
Gethsemane	23
Bethany	22
Palestine	20

PETITIONS PER 100 MEMBERS

Bethany	15.4
Sutton	11.8
Palestine	11.1
St. Andrew	10.7
Thomas Smith Webb	10.4
Athol	10.3
Tmeple	10.1
Joseph Warren	9.8
Hugh de Payens	9.0
Gethsemane	8.9
De Molay	8.3
Orange	7.8
Northampton	7.6
Berkshire	6.6
Newburyport	5.8
Cambridge	5.7
Boston	5.5
Ivanhoe	5.5
Bristol	5.3
Massachusetts	5.0
Rhode Island	2.1

Courteously yours,

Frank H. Wilson, P. G. C.
Chairman